

The Sun.

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One Standard, One Currency!

In spite of Secretary GAGNE's evasive and non-committal speech at the Chamber of Commerce dinner on Tuesday evening, the assertion is made, on behalf of the Administration, that it will press through Congress, as soon as possible, a bill forbidding the use for any purpose, but the redemption of Government notes, of the Treasury gold reserve held against the notes, and also forbidding the release of redeemed notes except against deposits of gold.

This is wise and good, as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. Provision should also be made against an increased issue of notes, to circulate as money, by the national banks. Otherwise, the banks could, under the proposed bill, turn into the Treasury all the Government notes they now hold, and as many more as they could get, draw out the gold for them, lock up that gold in their vaults, and then issue their own circulating notes nearly to the amount of the Government notes redeemed. The Government notes would thus gradually be withdrawn from circulation and national bank currency would replace it.

There is no pressing need, just at the moment, for any legislation whatever in regard to the currency. The Treasury is amply supplied with gold, and nobody entertains any doubt of its ability, for a year to come, to redeem with ease all the Government notes that may be presented to it for redemption. In fact, its trouble is that the people want to deposit gold with it and take out notes beyond its power to supply them. Only the future need be considered, and in providing for the future the aim should steadily be to substitute for bank notes Government notes only, backed by an adequate gold reserve and redeemable in gold on demand.

Let us have one standard, namely, gold, and one currency, composed of Government gold coin and Government paper redeemable in gold, with silver for subsidiary use!

Our Rejoinder to Spain.

It was a crafty stroke on the part of Premier SAGASTA to accuse Americans of aiding the revolt in Cuba, in his reply to Gen. WOODFORD's proposal to help restore peace there. It forced our Government to meet the charge by showing that its duties under international law had been fully discharged; and this has been a diversion from the real question, which relates to the prospect of ending the war.

Yet all that Spain accomplished by this stroke is to gain a little time. Our Government, in its rejoinder, could show that its various outlays for patrol work and for special officers to prevent violations of the neutrality laws, have amounted to millions. It can and will show that it has gone beyond its obligations in order to satisfy Spain, sending its officers and its cruisers to the Spanish agents.

Undoubtedly, too, the chief source of the aid derived by the patriot cause is through the importation of arms, ammunition, and other supplies; and that is for Spain to check by her own patrol, just as we had to check a like source of supplies for the Confederacy, in the civil war, by our blockades of Southern ports. Spain makes an almost total failure in this part of her work, and then complains of us. The proximity of our coast to Cuba and the ease with which supplies are landed on its shores are elements of weakness inevitable in her attempts to do the job. The really unlawful enterprises, namely, hostile expeditions, and not mere shipments of arms as merchandise, have been not only very few, but we may challenge Spain to show lack of due diligence to prevent them.

While this has necessarily been the subject of our present reply to Spain, the main question again comes up as to how much longer we are to maintain a costly patrol, and to see to it that the parties to the war, the wisest policy for Spain to seek peace at once on the basis of Cuban independence, and our Government will help her to reach that result in a way to bring her both honor and profit.

Seals and Reciprocity.

According to a despatch from Montreal, it is practically impossible to bring about the proposed *modus vivendi*, whereby pelagic seal hunting and the killing of seals on the Pribilof Islands was to be suspended for one year, beginning Jan. 1, 1898. An agreement on the part of the Canadian Ministers to that effect would have to be sanctioned, which is not expected to meet before the third week in January, so that the departure of the Canadian seal hunters could not be prevented in time.

With regard to the permanent agreement to put an end forever, or at least for a long period, to pelagic seal hunting, which the representatives of our Government will try to effect, it is announced at Ottawa that Canada will not assent to it unless substantial concessions are made by us with respect to reciprocity, naval legislation, and the Atlantic fisheries. It may as well be understood once for all by Canadians that, while we certainly wish to see the seals preserved, we have no intention of paying an exorbitant price therefor, and that is precisely what we should do if we agreed to any kind of reciprocity that Canada can offer.

Sir WILFRED LAURIER is stopped by his public declaration on both sides of the Atlantic from discriminating against British commodities in favor of the manufactures of the United States. The Liberal party, of which he is the head, has receded far from the position which it was formerly inclined to take in the matter of commercial union, and which it definitely assumed when unrestricted reciprocity was advocated by Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Under a regime of unrestricted reciprocity, the products of our factories would have entered Canada duty free, whereas duties would have been imposed on similar wares imported from Great Britain and other European countries. In such circumstances, we should have been able to undersell not only the native Canadian manufacturers

but outside competitors also, and should practically have monopolized the demand of the Dominion for manufactured articles. That was, undoubtedly, a plausible proposal, so long as attention was concentrated only on one side of it. When we turned, however, from the question as to what Canadians would give, to the equally important inquiry, what would they gain? it was recognized that they would get much the better of the bargain. For while United States manufacturers would gain access to the market afforded by 5,000,000 people, Canadian raw products would gain access to the market provided by nearly 70,000,000 people.

The more these figures were examined, the clearer it became to American citizens that, if the Canadian provinces had in view such a disposition of benefits, if they wished, in other words, to acquire all the commercial privileges relating to States within our Union, they ought themselves to apply for admission to the Union, and thus assume the responsibilities inseparable from such high privileges.

While, however, the American people repelled the idea of unrestricted reciprocity, on the ground that it was a bargain too one-sided, they have never denied that, in that proposal, the Canadian Liberals offered everything in their power short of political absorption in our confederation. They offered to discriminate against British commodities, which would have involved the commercial divorce of the Dominion from the mother country. Nor is it impossible that, as some advocates of unrestricted reciprocity asserted, the effect of such a discrimination would have been to cause British statesmen to regard Canadian professions of loyalty with cynical indifference, and that the Dominion might have been invited to go in peace, had it eventually shown an inclination to announce its connection with the British Crown. That prospect, at any rate, was the lure held up to us at the time when unrestricted reciprocity was mooted. We declined to be beguiled by it, or to concede in advance to the Canadians solid and disproportionate advantages in return for the distant chance of annexation.

The kind of reciprocity now offered by Sir WILFRED LAURIER falls very far short of that proposed by Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Canadian raw products, it should be remembered, would have no cause to fear outside competition in our market, because, with the exception of wool, we import no similar products from transmarine countries. When, therefore, Sir WILFRED LAURIER requests us to admit Canadian products at rates so much lower than those prescribed in the Dingley act that they can be sold here at a profit, he practically asks us to give Canadians a monopoly of our market as against outside competitors, besides enabling them to compete with our own producers of raw products.

What does Sir WILFRED proffer in return? He proposes that, after a certain interval, American manufactures shall be admitted into the Dominion at rates 25 per cent. lower than those imposed by the existing Canadian tariff. What good would that do us? British manufactures would be admitted on precisely the same grounds, and, as labor is cheaper in Great Britain, the British manufacturer would be able to undersell us as regards the great majority of articles. It is, therefore, a derisive consideration which is offered to us by Sir WILFRED LAURIER in exchange for a most valuable concession.

Better suffer the last seal to die at the hands of Canadian pelagic hunters than to permit ourselves to be entrapped into assent to any form of reciprocity that Canada is willing to propose.

New York and the Democratic Party.

The very frank declaration by Mr. CROKER that he recognizes Senator MURPHY as the leader of the Democracy of this State is merely an authoritative announcement of a fact which was made manifest in the late campaign. The course of the Democratic State Committee and of Tammany Hall in that campaign and in all the preparations for it indicated very plainly that it is their policy to keep the Democratic organization of New York in cordial harmony with the Democratic party as a whole. Justice PARKER, the candidate for Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, announced promptly after his nomination that he had voted for Mr. BRYAN last year. In the spring, Manhattan Club gold Democrats were sanguine that they could secure the nomination by Tammany Hall of a candidate for Mayor who would be representative of their opposition to the Chicago platform. Judge VAN WYCK had remained faithful to his party last year, and except for that circumstance he would not have been nominated for Mayor and could not have been elected. Tammany, however, evaded the Chicago platform, though it put up a Bryan candidate for the nomination of the Bryanized Democracy, and it made its campaign on "local issues," the Citizens' Union assisting it to return to power on them.

Senator HILL's square and bold opposition to the Chicago platform on the floor of the convention itself and his silence in the campaign of last year do not commend him as an agent in carrying out the schemes of Democratic harmony, which Mr. CROKER and his associates have in hand. They regard strict Democratic regularity last year as the prime requisite for leadership in the party, and consequently Senator HILL is excluded as disqualified. First of all, the leader must be agreeable to the straight-out Bryan Democrats, who make up the great bulk of the party in the State, and who control it absolutely in the Union as a whole and will dominate the National Convention of 1900, according to all present appearances. Senator MURPHY was prevented by illness from attending the Chicago Convention, but afterward he accepted its platform and acted as regularly and indisputably Democratic. Thus he is without the disqualification for leadership which bars Senator HILL under the scheme of Democratic harmonizing adopted by Mr. CROKER and apparently by the run of the party managers in the State.

It may be assumed, however, that the real Democratic leader will not be Senator MURPHY, but Mr. CROKER himself. By wielding the enormous political power of the Greater New York, Mr. CROKER will have a far more influential place in the Democratic party of the State than ever before, and it is so disposed, it is reasonable to infer that he can make himself its master easily and mould its policy with reference to both State and national issues. It is also obvious from the course of Tammany Hall in the late campaign and of the Democratic State Committee, which acted in unison with it, that that policy will be to bring the New York Democracy in fraternal relations with the party generally, as a loyal division, in order that it may wield the

greater influence in shaping the party policy of the national council in 1900. It is this which makes the Tammany victory in New York three weeks ago so important, and so significant. Undoubtedly that impressive triumph tends to give Tammany an even greater and larger power in the Democratic party than it ever before held. Its fraternity with the Bryanized Democracy is cordially celebrated throughout the Union and its title to peculiar distinction in the party everywhere recognized. Instead of an opposing and resisting delegation from New York like that in the Democratic Convention at Chicago last year, a delegation in 1900 which will accept without protest the platform and candidates is now assured.

Undoubtedly, if Senator MURPHY and Mr. CROKER could have their way in determining the Democratic policy in the next election for President, without any restrictions, they would pursue toward the Chicago platform of last year a course of evasion of its radical currency features somewhat similar to that adopted by them in the late New York campaign. That is, they would wish and try to temper the currency policy of the Democratic party so as to make it as unobjectionable to old-fashioned New York Democrats, in the form of its expression, as might be consistent with the necessity of keeping together the party as a whole. The Tammany platform indicated that radicalism touching the authority of the Supreme Court, "trusts and monopolies," and in the more specifically socialistic features of the national policy, will not provoke its opposition, but may rather be encouraged by it, even to a greater extreme, with a view to getting rid of the prominence of the silver issue. It will not attempt the useless task of resisting the overwhelming Bryan Democracy undertaken at Chicago last year by Senator HILL and Mr. WILFRED LAURIER. That new Democracy has assured and made more absolute its dominance in the States generally since the election of 1890, and it will be resistless in the convention of 1900.

With such harmony prevailing, the New York delegation might have more influence in moulding the declaration of policy by the convention than if there was such a division of sentiment as was manifested at Chicago last year, which served only to intensify the determination of the majority to steer the party in its own way without reference to the protesting minority. That is, the New York delegates in 1900 might do more by sympathetic conciliation than their predecessors in 1890 did by strenuous opposition.

The changes that may be made in the Democratic currency policy in 1900, if any shall be made, will be determined, however, by events yet to occur, by the situation and condition of trade and agriculture in the intervening years and at that time, but that, whatever it is, it will be a radical policy is not doubtful. Strong as Tammany is, it is not powerful enough to check the inevitable tendency of the Democratic party to radicalism generally, and during the next two years the extreme reached in the Chicago platform is likely to be extended still further.

That the Democratic party of the future will be a distinctly radical party seems to be settled.

It is announced that Mr. JAMES B. LYON of Albany, the State Printer, has acquired an interest in the business of the Martin B. Brown Printing Company of this city, which has the contract for printing the official journal known as the *City Record*.

"The *City Record*," we are also told, "will be greatly increased in size after Jan. 1, and the contract for printing is expected to be very valuable."

This means that somebody is going to make large profits out of the publication of this municipal advertising sheet. Those profits, of course, will come out of the pockets of the taxpayers.

When the *City Record* was originally established, the argument in favor of publishing such a journal at the expense of the municipality was that the city would save the profits which then went to the various newspapers in which the corporation advertisements were published, and which were denominated the corporation papers. The statute prescribes that "all notices required by law or ordinance to be published in corporation papers shall be inserted at the public expense only in the *City Record*," and a publication therein shall be a sufficient compliance with any law or ordinance requiring the publication of such matters or notices;" but it permits the municipal authorities to insert in the daily or weekly newspapers here brief advertisements calling attention to public contracts to be awarded or bonds to be sold, and referring the reader to the *City Record* for further information on the subject.

It is difficult to perceive how the city has gained anything by this arrangement, if the authorities make a contract for the printing of their official journal which yields such large profits to the contractor as to induce competition from Albany for the job.

There are strong indications that most of the money spent in maintaining the *City Record* is a wasteful expenditure. Public notices, and advertisements intended for the people should be printed in newspapers that the people voluntarily buy, and not in a journal which lives only by taxation.

Herr Lueders and Hayti.

Our latest despatches from Berlin indicate that Germany's affair with China eclipses in importance her trouble with Hayti, and, further, that her demands upon President THOMAS AUGUSTIN SIMON SAM may have been moderated since they were so pompously presented in person by Minister SCHWENK.

If, as is now said, Germany asks only a suitable indemnity for Herr LUEDERS, and none for her own injured dignity, the matter should be easily arranged. LUEDERS was sentenced to a month's imprisonment on the charge of assaulting the police while they were making an arrest at his house. Such an offence is punishable at Berlin as at Port au Prince. The element in the case that looks queer is that on his appeal and new trial the sentence was made a year, with \$500 fine. Still, he was actually released before he had been held a month, so that Count SCHWENK's demand of \$1,000 in gold per day, with \$5,000 for every day of detention after the notification, seems a very high rate of personal compensation. One account says he was imprisoned twenty-three days before the notice next six days after it, which would apparently net him, at Count SCHWENK's prices, about \$53,000. On these terms LUEDERS would find his experience highly profitable.

But the main point is that Germany shows no signs of trying to bully Hayti, as she does China, with a naval demonstration. Our Minister, Mr. POWELL, who advised President SAM to let LUEDERS go, has intimated, it is said, that Hayti was not so far wrong as the German story declares.

Widows and Pensions.

The most striking recommendation made by the Commissioner of Pensions is the one for the passage of a law providing that no pension shall be granted to the widow of any soldier who shall hereafter marry.

Even now the widow of a soldier pensioned under the famous disability act of June 27, 1890, is not entitled to a pension, unless she was married to him before the passage of that act; but there is no restriction upon the widows of soldiers pensioned under the general laws.

Secretary BLISS approves the Commissioner's recommendation on the ground that "a woman who marries a soldier now (thirty-two years since peace was declared) takes him for better or for worse; she was not his wife during the war, experienced none of the hardships, deprivations, and anxieties incident to the life of a wife of a soldier, and should not, therefore, be placed on the rolls as such."

The point is very interesting. The proposal of the Commissioner and the Secretary will be opposed on the ground that pensions have been granted to the widows of the veterans of the war of the Revolution and of the war of 1812, no matter how late in life these veterans married. On the other hand it may be argued that the extraordinary number of the civil war pensioners justifies a new rule regarding them. In the Interior Department's report for 1894 we find that "nine widows and three daughters of veterans of the Revolution constitute the pension roll for that year," and now Secretary BLISS reports that, on June 30 last, there were sixteen widows and daughters of Revolutionary soldiers, seven survivors of the war of 1812, and 281 widows of soldiers of that war.

In view of the time elapsed since the close of the Revolutionary war, and also of the vastly greater number of soldiers of the civil war, we should think that some of those who may hereafter marry aged Union soldiers will be drawing pensions well along toward the year 2000.

Sleepy Burke and Red Chris.

Some of the most eminent, skillful, dexterous, alert, and daring of Chicago's cracksmen, sandbaggers, highwaymen, "second floor men," burglars, and maskers are temporarily absent from that town enjoining Thanksgiving in interior Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota. To their absence is due the present Chicago craze for petty crimes. There were eleven hold-ups on Tuesday and a number of petty larcenies, the repetition of which is certain to deprive Chicago criminals of a good share of their reprehensible but hard-earned fame.

The holding up, for instance, of Dr. KOCH, a Chicago physician, for the sum of thirteen cents is a despicable violation of all the criminal traditions of the city by the lake. The sandbagging of a Mendocino man on Belleplaine avenue for a package of cigarettes on Monday was another evidence of the decadence of Chicago professional criminals. It is on this account, perhaps, that Chief of Police KIPLEY, as a telegram published in THE SUN stated, has "issued a peremptory warning to the inspectors of the various districts that unless the alarming epidemic of hold-ups is checked there will be a wholesale discharge of policemen."

The fact of the matter is that a number of the larger Chicago criminals appear, as we have said, to be out of town. There is an old saying, that when the cat's away the rodents will amuse themselves, and in the absence of the big Chicago criminals the minor criminals, the apprentice criminals, the understudy criminals of that town, are bringing its professional cracksmen to the unmerited disrepute by their dastardly attempts to secure small sums of money and articles of value and *de luxe* by felonious methods which are proper only to more serious crimes.

As an illustration of the condition of affairs which is causing so much solicitude to the Chicago local authorities, we may recall the case of Sleepy BURKE and Red CHRIS. Those distinguished Chicagoans are wanted, as the police phrase is, for robbery, a wholesale robbery. They were at last accounts in the Crookston jail in Minnesota, and it is announced with all seriousness that the sentence of Red CHRIS "is to be commuted so as to permit his return to Chicago." Whether the same lenity is to be shown to Sleepy BURKE is not stated; but, presumably, joint offenders are to be treated alike.

When Sleepy BURKE gets back, and when Sandbag PHIL returns from Sedalia, Mo., and Levee MARY returns from Treator, there will be an end, for a time at least, to those insignificant, petty larceny crimes which have brought dishonor, dismay, and humiliation upon the real professional criminals of the city of Chicago, and have provoked the threat of the police authorities that town to visit reprobate on the delinquent policemen responsible for the continuance of such infractions of the laws of Illinois during the absence of the big criminals.

It seems almost incredible that a man held up and "covered by revolvers," in true Chicago style on Ogden avenue, was let go for less than \$5. In another case a victim was permitted to retain, even after he had disclosed it to the sandbaggers, a diamond pin and a seal ring, contrary to all the unwritten laws of Chicago criminals. Red CHRIS and Sleepy BURKE cannot get back any too soon.

JOHN G. WOOLEY is said to have the most complete vocabulary of English words at his tongue's command in this city in 1897. The linguist, who is known as "The Great Dictionary," has a vocabulary of 100,000 words, and he is said to be able to give the meaning of any word in any language.

No word will be said here, or should be said elsewhere, in diminution of the vocabulary which Mr. WOOLEY has at his tongue's command. Shepherd of words, his book spreads far, with trailing feet. But is WOOLEY fatter in words than our own JIM RYNDOLDS, our own SPOOKS LEAVITT?

A cheering and most sublime word comes from the Hon. MILTON PARK of Texas, Chief of the National Organization Committee of the Middle-of-the-Road Populists. "We are opposed to fusion with anybody or anything," says MILTON PARK, who is fresh from conference with such men as JACOB COXEY of Ohio and ANGE STRANDBERG of New York. "We are opposed to fusion with anybody or anything," says MILTON PARK, who is fresh from conference with such men as JACOB COXEY of Ohio and ANGE STRANDBERG of New York. "We are opposed to fusion with anybody or anything," says MILTON PARK, who is fresh from conference with such men as JACOB COXEY of Ohio and ANGE STRANDBERG of New York.

been revealed. After the Chicagoan participants in the hotel and feeds upon "an old-fashioned Democratic 'possum supper.' No wonder Georgia and other States are anxious to preserve the 'possum. He is a missionary of bimetallicism. He is the partner of Mr. BRYAN.

Why is Mexico, Mo., the hub and sacred centre of the silver wheel? Why does the latest and the earliest news of the silver world come from Mexico, Mo.? Why does the pulse of Argentine aspiration throb in louder beats at Mexico, Mo., than anywhere else? Nobody knows. So hath it been; so be it. Probably there has been done in Mexico, Mo., for human-kind against the Money Power than in all other parts of the world. The Hon. JON SIBLEY, the plutocratic pillar of the Hon. FRANKLYN D. RICE, "Frankly I admit," writes SILEY SIBLEY, "that if nominated on a ticket with Mr. BRYAN, with a platform that respects the law, the heart, and the conscience of the great plain people of our nation, I should esteem it a most profound honor." Upon what other platform could SILVER JOE be nominated? He has money in his pockets, and not less than 16 hearts within his bosom. He deserves to be nominated for Vice-President, if Mr. BRYAN can be persuaded to take first place.

Thanks should be said in all the Mugwump congregations in honor of the Civic Federation of Chicago. The Civic Federation of Chicago has done a deed of might in behalf of the holy privileges of Mugwumpia. By the good offices of the Civic Federation of Chicago a national division of primary election reform will be held here in January, probably in the Blue Room of Good Government Club. Mr. MEADLEY, the Secretary of the Federation, is ready to meet other primary reformers wherever and whenever they can be found in this town. Secondary reform has failed. The time has come to make the primaries responsive to the will of the folks who won't go to them.

EDWARD EVERETT HALE says that 600 words are all that are necessary for purposes of communication in any language.—*Utica Press*.

The theory of Mr. HALE's census of the necessities of such words seems to be that words are used for the purpose of communication between two or more persons. By the slightest study of the orations of Mr. SETTLE LOW and some other renowned speakers, Mr. HALE will learn that the main purpose of language is to express the ego; and the ego doesn't care a rap for the other fellow. And in most conversation one talks; the other is talked to or at.

The Cuban Situation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: What a pity that before giving his views upon the Cuban situation, and expressing his perfect confidence in the ability of Spain to end the war and that of the planters to collect a full sugar crop, the Marquis of Apezaguia could not first have been able to read the same edition of THE SUN which contains two distinct refutations of his statements.

In the first place, he declares that Blanco has 100,000 well-armed troops at his command on the island. Gen. Blanco's own official statement is that but 80,000 men remain. In the second place, he declares that the Marquis of Apezaguia is a subject of the Republic of Cuba. Secondly, he says that there is not the slightest doubt of his being able to collect a full sugar crop. In THE SUN the news of the burning of all the sugar cane on the large estate of the Marquis of Apezaguia, owned by one of the Cuban planters, is given. As the Marquis of Apezaguia is a subject of the Republic of Cuba, he is bound to contribute to the insurgents. Perhaps the Marquis will be so far overcome by the "haughty and touchy Spanish pride" as to allow this tribute.

CUBA LIBRE.

FOURTH AVENUE, NOV. 22.

Visitation by Young Women.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: We medical men are so accustomed to the words "human female" in our books that they would not excite the least surprise in us where we met them. An "inhuman female" is, on the contrary, something much more remarkable.

We all have our ideals of girls and women. The ideals may differ, but to most of us they are built on a foundation of tenderness and love; of "sentiment" which some one has said "is the sentimental error." No matter how they may vary with the individual, the ideals can always be resolved into some such simple and stable elements.

It is a little curious and surprising that I read in your paper, a few days since, under the heading "Visitation," some comments on those women who are taking a course of study at Ithaca. It may be well that these females, who spend their time in hunting and dissecting, usually while still alive, the small, helpless creatures which come within their reach, are not contemplating marriage. It is surely to be hoped that such is the case, as they would probably materialize into wives and mothers who would not scruple to get rid of their husbands or of their children by means of toxic germs injected in the best and most scientific manner.

Yet, if these budding women do not marry what will they do?

My doubts become teachers, and, in some far away hidden rural districts, will teach the girls and boys of our country physiology, accompanied by demonstrations on living subjects, furnished for that purpose by public spirited scholars, who, as no long ago, were content to secure their anatomical specimens from the homes where they were cared for and held dear.

Perhaps I am old-fashioned; but such proceedings as those recounted in your article seem to me disgusting.

The young society "buds" are far more human than the masculine female doctors who devote their time to vivisectioning living animals.

NEW YORK, NOV. 24.

LUIGI GALVANI DOANE, M. D.

Santa Claus Forever!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: A movement appears to have started to do away with our esteemed contemporary, the ancient and honorable Santa Claus. I am one of those who have had great satisfaction in his brave and poetical defenses of the children's patron saint. It occurs to me to send you some lines copied out of an old book that I have come across on my library shelf, a book of "Fables of the late Rev. Ralph Rort, and published in this city in 1861. The lines occur in the "Fables of Memory and Emotion." I quote but a single stanza as sustaining your own argument for the reality of Santa Claus. Here it is:

Beyond the ocean, many a mile,
 There lived a wonderful, queer old man
 And every little boy and girl
 And every Christmas time
 No trouble will you see as he comes
 The old man is still alive.

NEW YORK, NOV. 23.

HE WANTS AN ARMY OF HALF A MILLION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: J. A. Goulden, Chairman of Memorial Committee G. A. R. of New York, says in THE SUN of the 21st inst. that "the veterans of the late war could be used to fill the breach in the southeast force, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York could furnish 50,000 veterans under 60 capable of doing efficient duty in handling the great batteries," and a lot more nonsense of the same tenor.

No word will be said here, or should be said elsewhere, in diminution of the vocabulary which Mr. WOOLEY has at his tongue's command. Shepherd of words, his book spreads far, with trailing feet. But is WOOLEY fatter in words than our own JIM RYNDOLDS, our own SPOOKS LEAVITT?

DANIEL WEBSTER'S DOCTRINE.

Inhumanity a Ground of Intervention.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: When the new Ministry of Spain recalled the butcher Weyler from Cuba and appointed Gen. Blanco in his place, we were assured that the Spanish Government had inaugurated a new policy, and that henceforth the war in Cuba was to be conducted according to the rules of civilized warfare. The release of the Competitor prisoners, through a tardy recognition of the rights of American citizens, expressly guaranteed by treaty, was received by our people with satisfaction as an evidence of the disposition of the Sagasta Ministry to repudiate the original outrage and to abide for the future by the established principles of law and humanity.

But this feeling of satisfaction has been rudely dispelled by more recent developments. It is now stated that, while Gen. Blanco remains in Havana, insuring proclamations of amnesty and concession, the command of the army in the field has been committed to Gen. Pando, a soldier of the Weyler pattern; and already we begin to hear the old stories of Spanish cruelty. In THE SUN of Monday last I find the following in a despatch from Havana, dated Nov. 20:

A Cuban hospital near Artemisa, Pinar del Rio province, raised by the Spanish troops, the twenty sick patriots, women and children murdered. The treatment of the patriots by the Spanish soldiers and police is as cruel as in the days of Weyler. The Chief of Police of Matanzas tortured several women and children yesterday because they begged in the streets. The mortality in Matanzas by starvation is increasing.

In 1842, during the Texan revolution, the Mexican Government was accused of treatment toward the Santa Fe prisoners which was then denominated cruel, but which was merely itself compared to the law of war. The Santa Fe prisoners were then Secretary of State. Among the Santa Fe prisoners were some of our citizens, but Webster did not confine himself to protesting in their behalf. This is the message he sent to Mexico:

Although the rights of the safety of none of their own citizens were concerned, yet if in a war waged between two nations, the rights of the weak, or, cruelly treating of prisoners should be indulged, the United States would feel it their duty as well as their right to remonstrate and to interfere against such a departure from the principles of humanity and civilization. These principles are common principles, essential alike to the welfare of all nations, and in the preservation of which all nations have therefore rights and interests. But their duty to interfere becomes imperative when they see their own citizens, or, cruelly treating of prisoners should be indulged, the United States would feel it their duty as well as their right to remonstrate and to interfere against such a departure from the principles of humanity and civilization. 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